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January 9, 2007

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Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "Newsroom" (2007). *Newsroom*. 142.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/newsroom/142>

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Spring Cultural Book Club Discussions to get underway

JANUARY 9, 2007

The Multicultural Student Center at Georgia Southern University will host three Cultural Book Club Discussions throughout the spring semester on Jan. 24, Feb. 21 and April 18.

“Curriculum is all around us and this is an excellent opportunity for students to apply curriculum to interests they may have outside the formal classroom,” said Consuela Pender, director of the Multicultural Student Center.

The first book club discussion will be held during Religious Awareness Week at noon, Wednesday, Jan. 24, at the Baptist Collegiate Ministries located on Chandler Road. “Velvet Elvis: Repainting the Christian Faith,” written by Rob Bell, will be facilitated by Todd Deal, professor of chemistry. The book is an introduction to the Christian faith describing what it means to follow God in today’s society.

The second book club discussion will be held at noon, Wednesday, Feb. 21, in Russell Union Room 2044 during Black Awareness Month. “The Covenant with Black America,” written by Tavis Smiley, will be facilitated by Ron Bailey, professor of history. The book is considered a blueprint for addressing critical issues that confront the African-American community. Its purpose is to inspire the reader to action.

The final book club discussion of the semester will be held at noon, Wednesday, April 18, in Russell Union Room 2044 in conjunction with Holocaust Remembrance. “The Reader,” written by Bernhard Schlink, will be facilitated by John Steinberg, associate professor of history. The book tells of a love affair between a young man and older woman during World War II in Nazi Germany. It follows their lives to a meeting several years later at a war crimes trial.

For more information, contact the Multicultural Student Center at 912-681-5409.

Animals at Wildlife Center to receive annual physical examinations

JANUARY 9, 2007

MEDIA ADVISORY

Here are two upcoming events at Georgia Southern University that will provide members of the media with unique coverage opportunities:

Annual animal examinations

More than 100 animals at Georgia Southern University's Center for Wildlife Education will receive their annual physical examinations on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 13 and 14.

The physical exams will be conducted by a group of veterinary medicine students from the University of Georgia. Georgia Southern students who work at the Wildlife Center will assist with the physical exams.

A wide variety of raptors, reptiles, amphibians and mammals will be examined by the students. The animals will range from eagles and hawks to pythons and rattlesnakes.

The physical exams benefit the Wildlife Center by helping to keep the animals healthy, and they benefit the vet students by giving them hands-on experience with exotic animals.

On Saturday, the physical exams will be conducted from 9 a.m. until noon and from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. On Sunday, the physicals will be conducted from 8 a.m. until noon and from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.

If you are interested in covering this event, contact Center for Wildlife Education Animal Resources Manager Scott Courdin at (912) 486-7124 or (912) 681-0831.

Falconry field meet

Falconers from Georgia, South Carolina and Florida are scheduled to bring their birds of prey to rural Bulloch County this weekend for the annual Georgia Game Hawkers Club falconry field meet.

Falconry is the hunting of wild quarry in its natural habitat by a trained raptor. A variety of hawks and falcons will stalk rabbits, squirrels and ducks during the meet, which will run from Saturday, Jan. 13, through Monday, Jan. 15.

If you are interested in covering the falconry meet, contact Center for Wildlife Education Director Steve Hein at (912) 681-0831.

University celebrates Religious Awareness Week

JANUARY 9, 2007

Georgia Southern University will celebrate Religious Awareness Week Monday, Jan. 22, through Friday, Jan. 26. 'Religious awareness events give the University community the opportunity to share and learn about religious beliefs within our community, as well as the world around us,' Consuela Ward-Pender, director of the Multicultural Student Center, said.

The schedule of events includes the following:

Monday, Jan. 22

- Religious Fair in the Commons. Russell Union Commons, 11 a.m.
- Panel discussion: "Hot Topics and Hot Wings." Panel representatives from various highly recognized religions will engage audience participants in discussing a variety of contemporary "hot topics" while enjoying hot wings. Russell Union Room 2048, noon.
- Discussion: "What Does Faith Have To Do With It?" Participants will discuss aspects of faith and science in both evolution and intelligent design. Johnson Hall, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 23

- Discussion: "Free Will and Free Pizza." Leaders of three faith traditions will give their perspectives on the question of free will and sovereignty and the implications for living an authentic faith. Russell Union Room 2044, 12:30 p.m.
- "Marriage: The Sacred Connection" explores a Jewish understanding of the special place of marriage in connection to God. Russell Union Room 2044, 2 p.m.
- "Trinity Trouble" takes a biblical look at God and more specifically the Godhead. College of Information Technology Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

- Cultural Book Club Discussion. "Velvet Elvis: Repainting the Christian Faith," written by Rob Bell, will be facilitated by Todd Deal, professor of chemistry. Discuss the conversation Jesus started over 2,000 years ago and consider how to live out a life of Christian faith in today's society. Books will be available in the Multicultural Student Center. Baptist Collegiate Ministries, located on Chandler Road, noon.

Thursday, Jan. 25

- "Spiritual Unity in Diversity." The Baha'is will share a healing message of the underlying common spiritual teachings of all religions. The Baha'is believe that there is one God with many names and that we are all children of this one God, and the golden rule runs like a golden thread through all religions. Russell Union Room 2044, 12:30 p.m.
- "Diverse Religions" will include representatives from four misunderstood religions and will briefly introduce and explain the modern relevance of their beliefs. Russell Union Room 2048, 2 p.m.
- "Demise of American Religion" will provide an opportunity for discussion regarding the disastrous effects of post modernism and the new tolerance on the American mind. Russell Union Room 2044, 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 26

- "Religious Insight in Secular Fiction" will provide spiritual insight from works of literature that are not explicitly religious or devotional. Russell Union Room 2073, 1 p.m.

All events are free and open to the public. Religious Awareness Week is sponsored by the Multicultural Student Center Religious Programming Committee. For more information, call (912) 681-5409.